

Ser. No. 10/604,284
Art Unit: 2816

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REMARKS

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Sidiropoulos et al (US Pat. No. 6,573,779). Claims 11-20 were allowed and claims 2-10 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Please note that the Sidiropoulos reference is not listed on either form PTO-892 or on Applicant's IDS.

Claim 1 is being cancelled and the limitations of base claim 1 are being copied into allowable claim 2.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 2-20, as amended, are in a position for allowance. This application was filed with formal drawings. Applicant believes that a full and complete response to the office action has been made. Reconsideration and re-examination is respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

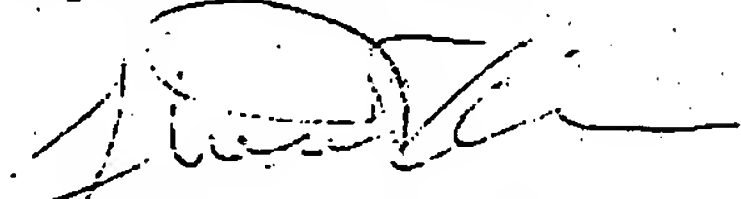
If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at (831) 476-5506.

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 01-2950.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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